

SYNONYMICAL NOTES ON PHORIDÆ.

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The present brief note will serve to correct some errors of nomenclature which have recently crept into the literature relating to this family of Diptera.

Conoprosopa Becker.

1909. Bull. Mus. Hist. Nat. Paris, No. 3, pp. 113-120.

1910. Brues. PSYCHE, Vol. 17, p. 34 (*Coryptilomyia*).1910. Becker. Ann. Soc. Ent. France, Vol. 79, p. 30 (reprint of original description of *Conoprosopa* which is indicated again as a new genus).1912. Enderlein. Stettiner Ent. Zeit. p. 51 (*Metopotropis*).

The type came from "Southern Ethiopia," that of *Coryptilomyia* from Natal, and that of *Metopotropis* from German South-west Africa. There can be no doubt of the generic synonymy and the three species, *Conoprosopa scutellata* Becker, *Coryptilomyia armigera* Brues, and *Metopotropis herero* Enderlein are probably synonymous also.

Phalacrotophora Enderlein.

1912. Stettiner Ent. Zeit., p. 21.

To the type species described (loc. cit.) by Enderlein should be added *Aphiochata epeira* Brues (PSYCHE Vol. 9, p. 351 (1902)), originally described in *Phora* and since placed as an aberrant *Aphiochata* differing from the other species of that genus by the absence of any median reclinate frontal bristles. *Aphiochata longifrons* Brues (Bull. Wisconsin Nat. Hist. Soc. 1906, p. 100) belongs here also.

Aphiochaeta Brues.

1903. Trans. American Ent. Soc., Vol. 29, p. 337.

Aphiochata enderleini nom. nov. for *A. minuta* Enderlein (Stettiner Ent. Zeit. 1912, p. 36) which is a homonym of *Aphiochata*

minuta Aldrich (Canadian Ent. Vol. 24, p. 146, 1892 (*Phora*)), which is in turn a synonym of *A. minor* Zett.

Aphiochata ferruginosa nom. nov. for *A. ferruginea* Enderlein (Stettiner Ent. Zeit., March, 1912, p. 37) which is homonymous with *A. ferruginea* Brunetti (Indian Mus. Notes, p. 84, 1912) described one month previously but referred to under that name earlier without description.

Aphiochata umbripennis nom. nov. for *A. fumipennis* Enderlein (Stettiner Ent. Zeit., p. 37, 1912), not *A. fumipennis* Brues (Ann. Mus. Nat. Hungarici, p. 407, 1907).

Aphiochata juli Brues. This species was originally placed in *Plastophora* (Journ. N. Y. Ent. Soc. 1908, p. 201), but must be removed to *Aphiochata* where it will find a place with *A. xantippe* Banks which it resembles closely. Both have a lengthened ovipositor and thus differ markedly from the other members of this extensive genus, but it would seem unwise to add another generic name for this small group to the already large number now extant.

Melaloncha Brues.

1903. Trans. American Ent. Soc., Vol. 29, p. 374.

I do not see how the genus *Udamochiras* Enderlein can be retained as distinct from *Melaloncha*, as the type *U. colossia* Enderlein differs from *M. pulchella* only by the form of its antennæ which are presumably rounded and not pointed, although their shape is not mentioned in the description. Otherwise the two agree in all characters that are of essential generic value.

SPHEX OVERCOMING OBSTACLES.

Mr. S. A. Rohwer of the U. S. National Museum has written that the unidentified species of SpheX mentioned in the paper by C. H. Turner published in the last number of PSYCHE (p. 100) is probably the common *Chalybion caruleum* (Linn.).

[Editor.]